

Committee Reports 2021 (Active)

Membership Committee (Julia Redgrave, Flora Hall)

The membership/volunteer database was updated in 2021 to make it more functional. The new database clearly shows volunteer, Board interest, donations, membership level - all searchable through the database. Previous versions broke data out into pages, and years. This was not a very accessible or useful database. The new version will streamline contact with our membership. We currently have 140 paid up members, though there remains approx. 50 that could renew for 2022, Julia Redgrave and Flora Hall will make contact with the past members.

Human Resources Committee (Julia Redgrave, Jaime Lee Lightle)

The Gallery Director's salary was increased from \$34,000 to \$35,000 - with annual increases over the remaining 4 years (to 2025).

ARTSPLACE employed a Summer student for 8 weeks in 2021.

Looking forward into 2022

The strategic plan highlighted a need to review the staffing needs of the organisation as well as solidify the recruitment of volunteers - initially creating a Volunteer Coordinator position. Many strategic goals set out in 2020 had to be postponed for 2020/21.

Facilities / Maintenance Committee (Randy Swigart, Julia Redgrave)

The ARTSPLACE building and grounds are monitored by a facilities committee to try and keep the Heritage building functioning as well as possible. The building is in fairly good shape although we do have a water leak on one window (the front wall shingles need to be replaced at some point) and another window with a deteriorating casing which needs to be addressed. The roof over the Chapel gallery should also be replaced. Grants and fundraising are a constant necessity to keep our Gallery open.

Looking forward in to 2022

The interior gallery walls have been painted over the winter and our heating vents and duct work is slated to be vacuum cleaned this spring. Upstairs in our workshop/studio space we are installing a new projection screen as well as a new overhead projection and sound system.

Exterior paint on the building and rampway will be touched up as needed this spring. We endeavor to maintain the outdoor grounds of ARTSPLACE by removing and maintaining vegetation around the building. Invasive Goutweed at the rear of the building has been removed and low maintenance plants such as Hosta's will fill in the space.

Staff & Board will be looking into capital improvement funding streams in 2022.

Fundraising Committee (Julia Redgrave, Board as required)

ARTSPLACE was lucky to have been the recipient of donated artworks that were part of a personal collection (of one person) accrued over the years. These works were presented for a fundraising sale early 2021, with 100% to the organisation. The sale brought in over \$5000 in fundraising revenue. We still have works to sell, and these will be used in 2022 to raise money.

The past two years have presented challenges for fundraising, our major event Paint the Town could not be held in person (usually 80+ artists over one weekend, gross sales \$30-38K, 50% to the artists). We maintained the event in 2020 and 21, with a much reduced online auction - presenting 26 artists on social media in the lead-up to the auction. This was a great way to focus on the artists using Instagram and Facebook. Gross sales totalled \$10,366 with a portion returned to the artist (they chose from 35% to 100% of sales to donate to ARTSPLACE), \$4821.65 to the organisation, before expenses.

"A Lot of Art" art market was initially conceived as a small fundraiser to hold during the summer, outside in the ARTSPLACE parking lot. However, it was decided to let the artists have a free table (as it was a pilot program) and to choose whether to donate any portion of sales as they saw fit. We restated this program as a PR/Marketing, a way to create some interest and draw to the building during summer weekends, and also create opportunities for the artists. It will continue for 2022.

PR/Marketing Committee (Sophie Paskins, Terry Drahos) with Peter Mansour as external contractor & in-kind contributions

A strategic goal that was identified in the most recent (and revised due to COVID plan) of improving the overall look of ARTSPLACE (online, social media) has been a great success in terms of streamlining how ARCAC looks to the public. As ARCAC is the registered society (1982), but ARTSPLACE is the building and original artist-run centre (1996), this has always caused confusion – some would refer to us as ARCAC, the Arts Council, ARTSPLACE. This was also challenging communicating the structure to funding bodies. In 2021, we registered ARTSPLACE Gallery as a business of ARCAC, and moving forward, use ARTSPLACE as the public face of the organization. We created a new wordmark, signage and have consistent marketing materials that follow this message.

Exhibitions Committee (Pat Lohrenz, Ted Lind, Wayne Boucher, James Lightle) & Programs Committee (Ted Lind, Bonnie Baker, Julia Redgrave) and Gallery Director, Sophie Paskins

of programs overall, in 2021: 58

Approx # of people served through programs: # 1928

The goal of the exhibition program is to present professional, contemporary visual art, support emerging, mid-career and established artists; encourage new artists, provide members with creative opportunities; to grow knowledge of contemporary art practice; to bring artists to the community and grow ARTSPLACE as a cultural centre.

Much of the exhibition program at ARTSPACE features regional and provincial artists. The artists present artist talks and workshops (paid a fee), as well as taking opportunities to exhibit in group and solo shows. Regional artist Eva McCauley and Halifax-based artist Christopher Webb presented exhibits of their new work at ARTSPACE (Eva in the main gallery and Christopher in the adjacent Chapel Gallery). Since both artists deal with human relationships to nature, they conducted an in-person artist talks on a Saturday afternoon in the summer.

Member shows - Each year ARTSPACE member artists are invited to submit a single work for a group exhibition. Members can also request the use of the small Mym Gallery or Library space to show their work - sometimes experimental or in-process. The shows in these spaces coincide with the exhibitions presented in the main gallery (4-6 per year) and the Chapel Gallery, a rental space.

ARTSPACE Exhibition Committee selects exhibitions through open calls choosing work that is excellent and would interest, inspire, and challenge our small rural community. These exhibits are the core of our activity. Submissions for the main space, were on hold in 2020/22, due to COVID restrictions. The OpenSpace outdoor art program remained open for submissions.

A separate Exhibitions site was set up in response to COVID, to host the online shows that were unable to be in-person, and has continued into 2022.

Highlights of 2021:

- Artist Christopher Webb conducted an artist residency in July. The work he completed during his time at ARTSPACE generated great interest from the community. Using the natural environment of the Annapolis Region, he completed innovative landscapes, accompanied by a sound track of music that was inspired by Gregorian chants. The music was composed by Webb and the participating singers and organist were volunteers from the community. The Halifax, Nova Scotia CBC conducted an extensive interview on the radio with Webb during his residency at ARTSPACE> The music was recorded in the United Church, directly adjacent to ARTSPACE. This work created during this residency enabled the artist to win a contemporary art competition that led to another residency in Turin, Italy.
- OpenSpace was a new direction for ARTSPACE during a year of pandemic restrictions. In order to give the community a chance to view art outside of the gallery, a request for proposals was posted in the spring. Applications for artists were reviewed by the exhibition committee and several artists were selected to install outdoor pieces (Ben Mosher, Bonnie Baker, and Alexa Jaffurs). The artists were paid for their participation based on CARFAC fees. OpenSpace ran from July - September.

Programs

2021 was a challenging year for presenting public programming at ARTSPACE Gallery. With the restrictions impacted by COVID-19 it was not possible to hold as many programs as

possible. People were reluctant to gather and if it was possible, the number of attendees had to be limited.

Some programming was presented as a 'hybrid' - limited face-to-face and access to Zoom video conferencing. For example, an artist talk and workshop were presented by artist Adrian Gor using Zoom technology from his location in Ottawa. The workshop was presented remotely, with local attendees attending in the upstairs programming area (limited to 10, with masks). Both of these programs were recorded (the workshop recording was available for attendees and the artist talk was posted for the entire community to access). A limited number of in-person programs took place, including screenings/conversations related to the "Art of the 21st Century" film series, National Film Board screenings, artist talks with regional photographers in partnership with Luck Rabbit & Co., half-day workshops in painting, printmaking, and photography, a live video conference with the National Gallery of Canada focused on their contemporary photography collection, and life drawing sessions. A highlight of the year was a special in-person evening event, held in April at the United Church: "A Sense of Place", with presentations by artists that related art to the protection and awareness of the natural environment.

As a new affiliate of the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), ARTSPACE Gallery has formed a film committee to feature the screening of innovative films. TIFF is undergoing COVID-19 related changes, but will eventually provide contemporary short films for screening at ARTSPACE. ARTSPACE featured a film series, curated by the National Film Board, screened short films by a contemporary NYC-based filmmaker outside on the side wall of the building, and a special showing of a family-friendly movie at the Oqwa'titek Amphitheatre (the 'O') in Annapolis Royal.

- Young artists are encouraged and supported in their creative work through ARTSPACE. Each year for the past four years, the "Teen Instagram Film Festival" invites teens in the Annapolis Royal community to submit short films of their own design. A select committee of regional artists, educators, and filmmakers reviews the submissions and cash awards are given. The films are screened throughout the community and the young artists are recognized for their successful commitment to the program.
- ARTSPACE provides small scholarships to individuals who seek to participate in arts education programs - visual arts, theatre, photography, etc. Proposals are submitted to ARTSPACE and reviewed by a committee of ARTSPACE board members. Scholarship recipients are invited to display their creations, if applicable, at ARTSPACE. This past year, one secondary level student presented their anime-inspired drawings and designs.
- ARTSPACE provides intellectual and spiritual support for the artists in the Annapolis Region. ARTSPACE is definitely considered the place for artists to gather. ARTSPACE shows high quality visual arts, implements rich programming and deep cultural opportunities, definitely giving artists a place to share ideas, debate issues, share their expertise, and exhibit their work on a consistent basis.

Exhibitions & Programs, 2021

Jan 19 ART21 (**film screening & discussion, by donation**)

Feb 17 - Mar 6 Paint the Town REWIND (**exhibition and fundraiser**)

Feb 23 ART 21 (**film screening & discussion, by donation**)

Mar 1 How to Build a Still Life, Julia Redgrave (**Open Studio, professional development, peer led, by donation**)

Mar 8 Creativity for Resilience, Jaime Lee Lightle (**Open Studio, professional development, peer led, by donation**)

Mar 13 - Apr 17 Members' show (**exhibition**)

Mar 13 - Apr 17 Focal Point, Ted Lind (**exhibition, gallery rental**)

Mar 13 - Apr 17 Stephanie Marie & Skylar O'Neil, Animals in Ink (**exhibition/youth AWEC High School Art Entrepreneurship Program**)

Mar 13 - Apr 17 Through the Looking Glass, Nicole Lortie, (**exhibition, membership**)

Mar 18 Oil Sticks & Oils, Wayne Boucher (**half-day workshop, fee paid**)

Mar 23 Luben & Elena (**film screening & discussion, by donation**)

Mar 26 Printmaking without a Press, Bonnie Baker, (**half-day workshop, fee paid**)

Apr 12 Life Drawing (**professional development**)

Apr 15 A Sense of Place special event to celebrate Earth Month with presenters HMS Smith, Susan Tooke, Ashela Hegedous Viola, (**public presentation, fee paid, by donation**)

Apr 19 Life Drawing (**professional development**)

Apr 20 ART21, film screening & discussion (**public presentation, by donation**)

Apr 23 Pouring with Purpose, Pat Lohrenz, (**half-day workshop, fee paid**)

Apr 24 Opening reception Splendid Isolation, Eva McCauley (**exhibition, juried**)

Apr 24 Opening reception Our Architectural Heritage, Society of Fiber Artists of the Annapolis River, (**exhibition, rental**)

Apr 24 Opening reception Paper Birds, Janel Warmington, (**exhibition, membership**)

Apr 24 Opening reception Leslie Erickson, (**exhibition, membership**)

Apr 26 Life Drawing (**professional development**)

COVID CLOSURE April 27 - May 28

Exhibitions that opened April 24, close to June 2.

~~May 3 Life Drawing (**professional development**)~~

~~May 10 Life Drawing (**professional development**)~~

~~May 12-18 Teen Instagram Film Festival, (**online presentation, youth, w/ AWEC high school**)~~

~~May 17 Life Drawing (**professional development**)~~

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~~May 24 Life Drawing (professional development)~~

~~May 31 Life Drawing (professional development)~~

June 2 - July 31 Reopening & extended Splendid Isolation, Eva McCauley (**exhibition, juried**)

June 2 - July 3 Reopening & extended Our Architectural Heritage, Society of Fiber Artists of the Annapolis River, (**exhibition, rental**)

June 2 - July 3 Reopening & extended Paper Birds, Janel Warmington, (**exhibition, membership**)

June 2 - July 3 Reopening & extended Leslie Erickson, (**exhibition, membership**)

Jun 15 Contemporary Photography, National Gallery of Canada teleconference (**presentation, virtual**)

Jul 1 - 30 Plants of the year 5850: Speculative Flora of the Symbiocene, Ben Mosher (**OpenSpace outdoor art at ARTSPACE, juried, fee paid**)

Jul 6 ART21 (**presentation, film screening & discussion, by donation**)

Jul 10 - Jul 31 Christopher Webb Artist residency (**professional development / exhibition, expenses paid, in-kind support**)

Jul 10 - Jul 31 Bella Rose, ARTSPACE 2020 Scholarship recipient (**exhibition**)

Jul 12 Watercolour, Poppy Balser (**Open Studio, professional development, peer led, by donation**)

Jul 16 DSLR Photography, Maria Longmire (**half-day workshop, fee paid**)

Jul 23 Casimir Nozkowski, Short Films (**public presentation, OpenSpace Film, outdoors at ARTSPACE, free/donation**)

Jul 31 Artist talks, Eva McCauley & Christopher Webb (**fee paid**)

July 31 Exhibition Christopher Webb

Aug 1 - 30 Still Standing Still, Bonnie Baker (**OpenSpace outdoor art at ARTSPACE, juried, fee paid**)

Aug 8 - Sept 18 Performers in New/Old Landscapes Adrian Gor (**exhibition, juried**)

Aug 8 - Sept 18 Miscellany, Elephant Grass Print Collective, rental (**collaborative workshop with Adrian Gor**)

Aug 8 - Sept 18 Wood Art Landscapes, Mike LeBlanc (**exhibition, membership**)

Aug 8 - Sept 18 Azulejos, Lisa Maj Roos (**exhibition, membership**)

Aug 14 - 16 Paint the Town fundraiser (**online, 26 artists**)

Sept 1 - 30 Inhabitants for a Brave New World, Alexa Jaffurs (**OpenSpace outdoor art at ARTSPACE, juried, fee paid**)

Sept 11 Artist talk, Adrian Gor (**virtual, fee paid, by donation**)

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Sept 12 Gilding Works on Paper, Adrian Gor (**workshop, virtual, fee paid, collab Elephant Grass Print Collective**)

Sept 18 & 25 Raku Firing, Ray Mackie (**workshop, fee paid**)

Sept 25 - Oct 30 Matrilineal Threads, Kasie Campbell (**exhibition, juried, fee paid**)

Sept 25 - Oct 30 Recipe for Sanity, Jaime Lee Lightle (**exhibition, rental**)

Sept 25 - Oct 30 Circles, Ulli Walker (**exhibition, membership**)

Oct 2 Family Movie Night: Labyrinth (**public presentation at the O'Quatitek Amphitheatre Annapolis Royal, free/donation**)

Oct 14 High School Art Group visit (**youth, educational, outreach**)

Oct 14 Artist talk, Kasie Campbell (**virtual, fee paid**)

Nov- 6 - Dec 18 Reflections on Life: Richard Rudnicki, curated by Susan Tooke (**exhibition, sponsored**)

Nov 6 Artist talk and presentation for Reflections on Life (**public presentation w/ Susan Tooke, Peter Dykhuis, Ken Hynes, Doug Thomas, Stephen Rudnicki, free**)

Nov 6 - Dec 18 From Life, ARTSPLACE Life Drawing group (**exhibition, sponsored**)

Nov 16 Artist talks, Debris (**public presentation, Ray Mackie, Susan Tileston, Susan Tooke, Tim Wilson, sponsored, free**)

Nov 23 Indigenous Cinema (**public presentation, NFB, short films, free**)

Nov 28 High School Art Group visit (**youth, educational, outreach**)